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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. 25X1A

**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 14 September 1950

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO. 25X1A

1. Three thousand men are stationed at the Skanderbeg barracks at Shkoder. Men who are recalled for service are instructed here.
2. Source also reported that at Shkoder 31 regular army officers who were purged are now there on inactive status.
3. The headquarters of 16 Division (sic)\* is reported to be located at Kopliku; 4000 men of this division are stationed as follows:
  - a. One unit, bearing the designation number 571, at Aktailu (sic-Kopliku?).
  - b. Other units at Buza e Ujit, Suka te Moksetit, Hani i Hotit, Boga, and Vermosh.
  - c. One infantry company of 5 officers and 150 enlisted men at Ana e Malit.
  - d. One infantry company of 5 officers and 150 enlisted men at Algare or Pllgare (sic-Villger Hills?).
  - e. One company each at Bushat (Manat e Zef Banes), Ranzat, and Beltoje.
  - f. One infantry company, reinforced by artillery units, guarding the coast along the Pulaj-Viluri (Lesh)-Gryka e Drinit (mouth of the Drin?) line.
  - g. On the island of Lesh, 50 men commanded by an officer candidate.
4. The above units were wearing Soviet, German and Czechoslovakian uniforms. Source stated that no more than 25 percent are loyal to the present government, and that the majority of the political commissars and the non-commissioned officers, most of whom come from South Albania, are violent anti-Nationalists. All the men are in constant training and are rigorously disciplined.
5. Other units\*\* are located as follows:
  - a. Kopliku: artillery unit with 4 Soviet 107mm. and 6 Soviet 67mm. pieces, plus 7 anti-aircraft machine guns.

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- b. Viluri of Shengjin: three light cannons.
  - c. Villgar Hills: artillery unit with 58 pieces.
  - d. Above Culaj Church: 2 large caliber pieces, heavily guarded by 25 men.
  - e. Saragj (sic), Buza e Ujit and Vermosh: engineer units engaged in digging trenches. The area is restricted; entrance is only by special authorization.
6. The only special armament known is the Soviet hand grenade, reported supplied to the troops at Kopliku.
7. The Yugoslavs have reinforced their own sector opposite 16 Division in the Podgorica sector. Source reported that the Yugoslav troops were seen wearing the white fez, as is customary with Kossovars.
8. Between July and the first week in August, there was a heavy traffic of mules carrying land mines in the direction of Vermosh. To date 100 mule loads of such mines have been unloaded. The shores of Lake Shkoder and part of the Bojana River are also mined.

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Comment: This is the first indication received of the existence of a 16 Division; [REDACTED] it is believed doubtful that such a unit has been formed. Our field representative suggests that this unit might be a special headquarters established for the coordination of defense against the Yugoslavs. Again, this might refer to the previously-reported 16 Division [REDACTED]

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\* Comment: It is not clear whether source meant to include these units under 16 Division.

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